

Phyllis is a member of a proud African American family of Taliaferros. The most notable of whom is Booker Taliaferro Washington. Since 1898 Phyllis's family has maintained the Lucy Taliaferro Estate in Colonial Beach, Virginia. Phyllis's great-grandmother purchased the property. Prior to World War II, Phyllis's family moved to Baltimore where she was born. Following the war, Phyllis along with her parents and sister moved to New York.

Phyllis is a graduate of Amityville Memorial High School on Long Island. She earned her bachelor's degree at Morgan State University and received her master's degree in Social Welfare at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She has also studied at the University of Ghana at Legon and at St. Ann's Psychiatric Hospital in Rosekilde, Sweden. In the United States, she took post-graduate courses at the Lenox Hill Hospital Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy program and at Beth Israel Hospital. She has held faculty positions in the State University of New York Agricultural and Technical College and at Old Westbury and Euro College.

In her professional life, she is focused on improving mental health treatment for women and children. She runs a group for women called "He Ain't All That." She has been honored by the Visiting Nurse Service, the Society for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, and the New York Black Psychologists. She is a Past President of the New York Association of Black Psychologists.

Phyllis is also the executive producer of the "The Phyllis Taliaferro Show—The Psychology of Everyday Life" on Brooklyn Community Access Television. Previously, on Starrett City Television, she was a producer and host of "Perceptions and Insights." Additionally, she made frequent appearances on Dr. Jeff's early television show, "A Hipper Shrink" and Dr. Brown's show, "Psych on Call." Phyllis has had guest spots on several radio shows as well as including "The Dr. Watkins Show," "The Gary Byrd Show," and "Hit It."

In addition to her work in the mental health field, she is actively involved in several local civic organizations. She is a member of the National Women's Political Caucus, the Brooklyn Women's Caucus, the National Political Caucus of Black Women in Politics, and the Central Committee for Al Sharpton. She is also a member of Church Women United and the auxiliary at Kings County Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Phyllis Taliaferro is dedicated to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

HONORING ANNE HESTER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anne Hester on the occasion of her being selected as a recipient for the 2002 Common Threads Award. Common Threads is a joint venture of the Agricultural Education Foundation, California State University, Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and AG ONE Foundation. The award is given to women who have made

a remarkable and visible contribution to the enhancement of their communities with their time and/or contributions. Honorees must live in Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, or Tulare County. They should have past or present roots in agriculture while showing outstanding involvement in a variety of community activities in addition to agriculture. The honorees make a difference with their philanthropic giving while serving as visible and credible role models for other women.

Anne married into a 3rd generation farming family, and she and her husband, Gary, are principles in Hester Orchards. Anne has played a major role in her and her husband's diversified orchard crops, nut processing, and farm management companies. She is actively involved in the operation and manages the administrative office.

Anne has been active in many agriculture and education organizations. Mrs. Hester served as chairperson for the Tulare County Farm Bureau and acted as the driving force for its Ag Education, Youth Leadership, Fundraising, and Scholarship committees. She recognized that Ag needed to reach out to student leaders and educate them about agriculture and its importance before they went on in their education. Because of her commitment to youth, Anne was also involved in a program at Farmersville High School where she helped at-risk kids get jobs in an effort to redirect their lives. Mrs. Hester's philanthropic devotion to helping the education of youth and her active involvement in the farming industry make her a significant part of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Anne Hester for her superior service to the public and her leadership in the agriculture community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Anne many years of continued success.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF MARVIN L. LAWVER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Marvin L. Lawver upon the death of this outstanding person; and

Whereas, Marvin L. Lawver was born November 6, 1925 and in 1943, at the age of 17, Marvin L. Lawver answered his country's call to duty and enlisted in the United States Navy; and

Whereas, during his overseas service, including Pearl Harbor, he became highly decorated earning the American Campaign Medal, Victory Medal, and Asiatic Pacific Area Campaign Medal; and

Whereas, for his service to our country we owe him a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid; and

Whereas, Marvin L. Lawver will certainly be remembered by all those who knew him because of his personal sacrifices of time and energy to family, friends, and community; and

Whereas, the understanding and kindness to which he gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. His life and love gave joy to all who knew him;

Therefore, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Marvin L. Lawver.

HONORING ANGEL GONZALEZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my youngest and bravest constituents, Angel Gonzalez. Angel is California's Ambassador to Foresters Champions Across America and the Children's Miracle Network program that honors remarkable children who have triumphed despite severe medical challenges. Today, Angel enjoys the fun and games of most five-year olds, but it wasn't long ago that would have seemed impossible.

Angel was standing with his Grandmother outside the oil change shop where his Mom works in Salinas, California, when a car in one of the service bays suddenly accelerated and crashed through the closed door of the shop. Angel was hit by the car and suffered severe head trauma and internal injuries. After emergency surgery and 10 days in a coma, there were no doubts that Angel was truly a fighter. He pulled through not only because of the good work of his surgeons and nurses, but because of determination and will power. His courage and determination has been crucial in his progress on the long and difficult road of rehabilitation. Over the months, Angel has made remarkable progress, gradually regaining his speech and motor skills. Through the continuing and laborious physical therapy, Angel has maintained his positive attitude and brought a playful approach to the challenges of his continuing recovery.

Angel's recovery is a remarkable testament to his strength and perseverance and the wonderful treatment he received at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital. As California's Ambassador, Angel has traveled to Washington, DC to bring hope to other children who are fighting for their health, and to recognize the important role that children's hospitals play in providing specialized care for kids. I would like to congratulate Angel on his amazing recovery and his position as an inspiring role model to all people who face adversity. I am honored to be able to recognize the resolve and support of Angel, his family, and their community.

A TRIBUTE TO LYSTRA MOORE-BESSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor of Lystra Moore-Besson in recognition of her contribution to her family and her community.

Lystra was born to Henry and Alice Moore in Trinidad & Tobago. She immigrated to the United States in 1975 to further her education. In 1980 she graduated from Brooklyn College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. After graduation, she pursued a career in banking. She is presently Vice-President and Branch Manager of HSBC Bank USA and holds her securities licenses from NASD.

During her twenty-years in banking, she has received several awards including the "Chairman's Award for Sales Excellence" at HSBC Bank USA. She also sits on the African American Diversity Sub-Committee for Mentoring